

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 PARIS 10430 131926 Z

41

ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9230

S E C R E T PARIS 10430

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MCAP, LY, EG

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE TRANSFER OF LIBYAN MIRAGES TO EGYPT.

DURING APRIL 13 MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER JOBERT, WE DISCUSSED REPORTED TRANSFER OF LIBYAN MIRAGES TO EGYPT. (OTHER TOPICS REPORTED SEPARATELY). JOBERT WAS INTERRUPTED BY A TELEPHONE CALL DURING OUR MEETING. IN CONTEXT OF MIDDLE EAST VIOLENCE WHICH WE HAD BEEN TALKING ABOUT, JOBERT SAID PHONE CALL WAS FROM DEFENSE MINISTER GALLEY WHO HAD SUGGESTED THAT HE AND JOBERT MEET ON APRIL 16 TO DISCUSS FRENCH AND ISRAELI INTELLIGENCE REPORTS THAT SOME LIBYAN MIRAGES HAD BEEN SEEN IN CAIRO. JOBERT EMPHASIZED THAT GOF DOES NOT HAVE PROOF OF THIS, BUT THE IMPLICATIONS ARE SERIOUS. I NOTED WITH APPRECIATION ASSURANCE GIVEN US BY FRENCH DIPLOMATIC OFFICIALS THAT IF IN FACT LIBYA HAD VIOLATED ITS MIRAGE CONTRACT WITH FRANCE, GOF WOULD DISCONTINUE DELIVERY OF REMAINING AIRCRAFT AND EQUIPMENT. JOBERT STATED THAT THIS HAS BEEN POLICY. GDS
IRWIN

SECRET

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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